

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 140486

EXDIS - FOR USDEL CSCE

FOL RPT LENINGRAD 0706 ACTION SECSTATE INFO MOSCOW 14 JUN 77
QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L LENINGRAD 0706

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-4

TAGS: PFOR, PINT, SREF, CVIS, OGEN, CSCE, UR

SUBJ: JEWISH REFUSENIK SCENE

REF: A. LENINGRAD 460, B. LENINGRAD 413

1. SUMMARY: LENINGRAD OVIR'S ATTENTION TO JEWISH EMIGRATION
PROBLEM AGAIN INTENSIFIED IN MAY AND JUNE. SINCE LAST REPORT
(REF A) EIGHT REFUSENIK HEADS OF FAMILIES OR INDIVIDUALS
HAVE BEEN GIVEN EXIT PERMISSION, BUT BALANCE WAS MAINTAINED
BY ISSUEANCE OF SEVEN FIRST-TIME REFUSALS OF PETITIONS FOR
PERMISSION TO EMIGRATE. BELGRADE CSCE MEETING DISCOUNTED
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AS DECISIVE FACTOR IN RECENT CASES. END SUMMARY.

2. IN LATE APRIL POLINA SORETS AND ARKADIY GELLER AND
FAMILY WERE GIVEN EXIT PERMISSION, AND IN MAY, YURIY
ZABARA AND VALDIMIR NEYMAN AND THEIR FAMILIES WERE GIVEN
EXIT PERMISSION. IN EARLY JUNE, SIMA OSTROVSKIY,
ALEXANDER PENSENSEN, AND LEONID GOLDIN WERE GRANTED

PERMISSION TO EMIGRATE ALONG WITH THEIR FAMILIES,
AND DISSIDENT-REFUSENIK ILYA LEVIN WAS ALSO TOLD HE
WILL BE ALLOWED TO DEPART.

3. IN CONTRAST TO APRIL WHEN LENINGRAD OVIR ISSUED
NO REFUSALS OF WOULD-BE EMIGRANTS' PETITIONS FOR EXIT
VISAS, FIVE SUCH REFUSALS WERE ISSUED IN MAY TO
VALENTINA KHAIT, MIRA BELKINA, FNU GUTMAN, NATALIYA
GURKOVA, AND EDUARD USOSKIN. VALERIY KOZAK AND FNU
LITVIN WERE REFUSED PERMISSION TO EMIGRATE DURING
FIRST TWO WEEKS OF JUNE. TO BEST OF POSTS'S KNOWLEDGE,
ALL CASES EXCEPT THOSE OF GURKOVA, KOZAK, AND POSSIBLY
LITVIN, INVOLVED FAMILIES.

4. POST HAS ALSO LEARNED THAT QUOTE SIX OR SEVEN
END QUOTE REFUSENIKS IN RIGA HAVE BEEN GIVEN PERMISSION
TO EMIGRATE SINCE EARLY APRIL, BUT HAS NOT YET LEARNED
WHICH CASES AMONG THE TWENTY-ONE KNOWN REFUSENIK CASES
THERE (REF B) WERE RESOLVED. SOURCE THOUGHT NO NEW
REFUSALS HAVE BEEN ISSUED IN RIGA. POST WILL
PROVIDE PARTICULARS AS SOON AS THEY BECOME AVAILABLE.

5. COMMENT: APART FROM THE EXIT VISAS GRANTED
REFUSENIKS IN RIGA, POST HAS NO EVIDENCE OF CONNECTION
BETWEEN OVIR ACTIVITY, VIS-A-VIS REFUSENIKS (QUA
REFUSENIKS), AND CSCE MEETING IN BELGRADE. WELL-INFORMED
SOURCE DISCOUNTED POSSIBILITY OF CONNECTION CITING
RELATIVELY LARGE NUMBER OF CASES OF PERMISSION GRANTED
LAST YEAR WHICH WERE NONETHELESS COUNTER-
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BALANCED BY ISSUANCE OF MANY NEW REFUSALS JUST AS
HAS OCCURRED DURING THE LAST TWO MONTHS. IN ANY
EVENT, NONE OF OLD REFUSENIKS, I.E. THOSE OF AT LEAST
TWO YEARS' SENIORITY HAS BENEFITTED BY RECENT OVIR
ACTIVITY. NET TOTAL OF LENINGRAD REFUSENIKS NOW STANDS
AT 100 SURNAMES. END COMMENT.RUECKERT

UNQUOTE CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
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